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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hancock et al.  
Serial No: 09/997,999  
Confirmation No: 3909  
Filed: November 30, 2001  
For: LUMINESCENT POLYMER PARTICLES

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Art Unit: 1714

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11/19/02  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2002.

Joseph B. Piro  
Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Before beginning examination of the above-identified application on its merits, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please add the following claims:

128. An article, comprising:  
a particle comprising a nucleic acid and a luminescent polymer.
129. A method, comprising:  
allowing a nucleic acid to bind to a luminescent polymer.

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